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should be "joint," as Wang has it. Instances like these might be multiplied, and they betray a serious lack of familiarity with either English or German law terms or both.

It is also unfortunate that the translator does not adhere to a term once chosen, *Schuldverhältniss* is in one place obligation, in another relation of indebtedness, in still another, debt relation. *Geschäftsfähigkeit* is legal competency S. 104 business capacity (S. 1304), business competency (S. 1307); Wang uses disposing capacity throughout.

If there had been a careful revision of the work, this would not have happened, nor could the serious blunder have passed unnoticed which makes the first two paragraphs of S. 1324 meaningless.

The German codifiers were careful to distinguish directory from mandatory language. The former is indicated by the word *soll*, the latter by the words *muss* or *darf nicht*. This distinction which is essential to the understanding of the code, has not been observed by the translator (see S. 1309-1316), while Mr. Wang was apparently aware of it.

That most of the translation is reasonably well done, does not excuse the blemishes that have been pointed out, and which appeared upon a very cursory examination.

After Mr. Wang's very creditable performance, it was perhaps still proper to undertake a translation that should in a sense be authoritative. In these days of the awakening of comparative jurisprudence in this country, it would be desirable to have some agreement upon standard and accepted equivalents for legal terms in different languages. Here was an excellent opportunity for making a beginning in this direction of which no advantage has been taken.

The copious references to many other codes and authorities, if reasonably accurate, should however make this translation a very valuable handbook in the comparative study of court legislation.

E. F.

Select Essays in Anglo-American Legal History. By various authors. Volume III. (Boston: Little, Brown and Company. 1909. Pp. 862.)

The two earlier volumes of this important publication have been noticed in this REVIEW. (II, 471; III, 126.)

When notice was made of the first volume, occasion was taken to commend the utility of the work, and, with the appearance of this, the con-

cluding volume, it is appropriate, in view of the admirable manner in which the undertaking has been carried to completion, again to express the reviewer's approval and to repeat the thanks which it is felt are due to the members of the committee of the Association of American Law Schools for the labor and discriminative care which they have devoted to their task.

In the present volume thirty essays are included, each devoted to the historical consideration of particular topics in the law. Twelve of these are within the field of commercial law, five relate to contracts, three to torts, five to property in general, and five to wills, descent, intestacy. The three volumes together contain seventy-six essays.

Aside from the very considerable service which these volumes perform in rendering easily accessible these excellent studies, it is believed that their re-publication will furnish a stimulus to further historical study of a law. Many, indeed most, of the essays, furnish and pretend to furnish only an introduction to, or general survey of, the special fields to which they relate, but by their excellence cannot but fail to furnish both an encouragement and a stimulus to further research. It is not unlikely that this will prove to be the greatest service of these volumes.

The History of Caste in India. Volume I. Evidence of the Laws of Manu on the Social Conditions in India during the Third Century A.D., Interpreted and Examined; with an Appendix on Radical Defects in Ethnology. By SHRIDHAR V. KETKAR. (Ithaca: Taylor and Carpenter, 1909.)

The author intends this monograph to form part of a series dealing with the history of the Hindu caste system, from the earliest Vedic times to the present. Instead, however, of beginning with the most remote antiquity, he sacrifices historical continuity and treats in his first volume a comparatively late period of Indian history, when the main outlines of the present caste system were already firmly established. One cannot but feel that the value of this work on Manu would have been greater, if he had first made a scientific study of the older Indian literature, from which an enormous amount of light could be brought to bear on Manu's treatment of caste. As it is, he scarcely refers to the Veda at all, and his attitude towards the Buddhist writings (to which he only alludes incidentally, promising a fuller treatment in another volume) is marred by an unfor-